

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03572 151856Z

42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O R 151820Z MAY 75

FM US MISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2953

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3572

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: SOVIET DELEGATION HEAD HIGHLIGHTS CURRENT PROBLEMS

1. SUMMARY: IN TWO-HOUR CONVERSATION MAY 15, SOVIET DELEGATION HEAD KOVALEV HIGHLIGHTED CURRENT PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO SOVIET DELEGATION. KOVALEV ALLUDED SEVERAL TIMES TO NEED TO HAVE CLEAR IDEA OF U.S. POSITIONS ON EVE OF GROMYKO'S MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, AND WE THEREFORE ASSUME HIS ENUMERATION OF CURRENT ISSUES CONSTITUTES LIST OF CSCE TOPICS SOVIETS MAY RAISE IN VIENNA. THIS TELEGRAM TRANSMITS FULL LIST OF SUBJECTS RAISED BY KOVALEV WITH BRIEF ANALYSIS OF EACH. END SUMMARY.

2. WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS--SOVIETS ARE EVIDENTALLY ANNOYED BY WHAT THEY INTERPRET AS A TOUGHER U.S. POSITION ON THIS KEY BASKET III TEXT. KOVALEV ACCUSED US OF TRYING TO UNITE THE NATO ALLIES ON THIS SUBJECT (SIC.). REMAINING POINTS AT ISSUE ARE REFERENCES TO "WIDER OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAVEL" FOR JOURNALISTS AND EARLY RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FOR TRAVEL (GENEVA 3387), INDIVIDUALS AS NEWS SOURCES, APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS ON JOURNALISTS ALSO TO TECHNICAL STAFF, AND NO EXCLUSION FOR LEGITIMATE PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY (GENEVA 2914). WESTERN ALLIES ARE INDEED NOW UNITED IN PURSUING THESE POINTS, ALL OF WHICH ARE INCLUDED IN NEW GLOBAL APPROACH PAPER (GENEVA 3570).

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03572 151856Z

3. GLOBAL APPROACH--KOVALEV ASKED FOR OUR ANALYSIS OF NEW WESTERN GLOBAL APPROACH PAPER. WE TOLD HIM IT HAS SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF ADVANTAGES FOR SOVIETS IN TERMS OF REAL WESTERN CONCESSIONS, AND THAT IT OFFERS POSSIBILITY OF COMPLETING WORK ON HUMAN CONTACTS AND INFORMATION VERY QUICKLY. WE URGED HIM TO GIVE A COMPLETE REPLY TO THIS INITIATIVE AND TO KEEP POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGES TO A MINIMUM (GENEVA 3570).

4. CBM'S--KOVALEV ASKED WHAT WE WOULD SUGGEST SOVIETS SHOULD DO TO REACH EARLY AGREEMENT ON THIS AGENDA ITEM. WE URGED HIM TO COME FORWARD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE WITH MAXIMUM MOVES TOWARD WESTERN POSITIONS ON NUMERICAL PARAMETERS.

5. QRR'S--KOVALEV PRESSED US TO AGREE TO A JOINT APPROACH TO NEUTRALS OR CO-SPONSORSHIP BY 4 OR 6 DELS OF ORIGINAL FRENCH QRR TEXT. WE TOLD HIM WE THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE POLITICALLY ILL-ADVISED, SINCE IT WOULD LEAD TO ACCUSATIONS OF A BIG POWER CONDOMINIUM, AND ALSO COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE, SINCE IT WOULD LEAD NEUTRALS TO CLOSE RANKS, TAKE RIGID POSITIONS, AND POSSIBLY OPEN PUBLIC DEBATE ON GERMAN QUESTION (GENEVA 3533).

6. TIMING--KOVALEV SAID (AS HE HAS MANY TIMES BEFORE) THAT SOVIETS WERE NOW PREPARED TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MOVE FORWARD. HE ASKED FOR OUR VIEW AS TO THE KEY ISSUES WHICH WOULD BRING AN EARLY CONCLUSION TO STAGE II. WE TOLD HIM KEY ISSUES ARE TRAVEL AND JOURNALISTS (AND GLOBAL APPROACH IN GENERAL), AND CBM'S. IF THESE COULD BE WRAPPED UP SHORTLY, IT MIGHT STILL BE POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE CSCE THIS SUMMER. (GENEVA 3403)

7. FOLLOW-UP--KOVALEV ASKED IF WE HAD SEEN NEW NEUTRAL PAPER ON FOLLOW-UP (GENEVA 3499). WE SAID WE HAD, BUT STILL SUPPORT THE DANISH PROPOSAL.

8. FINAL DOCUMENTS--WE TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 03572 151856Z

KOVALEV THAT WE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SUPPORT NEW DUTCH DRAFT FINAL ACT AS BASIS FOR ORGANIZATION OF FINAL CSCE DOCUMENTS (STATE 109758). KOVALEV SAID THIS MEANT OUR POSITION HAD CHANGED, SINCE WE HAD EARLIER FAVORED ONE DOCUMENT WITH SIGNATURE AT THE END. WE REPLIED WE HAD ALWAYS FAVORED A SINGLE DOCUMENT WITH A SINGLE SIGNATURE, AND NEW DUTCH DOCUMENT OFFERED BEST ARRANGEMENT WE HAD SEEN YET.DALE

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